

Appl. No. 10/727,316
Amdt. dated November 8, 2004
Reply to Office action of July 7, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The device of claim ~~7~~ 21, wherein said device is operable to be removably coupled with said medical instrument and said at least one accessory is operable to be removably coupled with said device.

9. (Currently amended) The device of claim ~~21~~ 7, wherein said first portion comprises an information tag portion for displaying at least one of a message and an identifier of a user of said medical instrument.

10. (Currently amended) for displaying a message; and
a second surface opposite said first surface for displaying an identifier of a user of said medical instrument.

11. (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein said first portion further comprises at least one flange coupled to said information tag portion, said at least one flange pivotally coupled to said second portion.

12. (Currently amended) The device of claim ~~21~~ 7, wherein said first portion comprises at least one flange pivotally coupled to said second portion, wherein an end of said at least one flange is adapted to form at least a portion of said accessory receiving slot.

13. (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein said first portion further comprises at least one locking hook extending outwardly from a surface of said first portion, said at least one locking hook operable to engage with a locking hole of said second portion to position said device in a locked position.

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14. (Currently amended) The device of claim 217, wherein said second portion comprises a locking portion adapted to lock with said first portion.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein said second portion further comprises at least one flange coupled to said locking portion, said at least one flange pivotally coupled to said first portion.

16. (Currently amended) The device of claim 217, wherein said second portion comprises at least one flange pivotally coupled to said first portion, wherein an end of said at least one flange is adapted to form at least a portion of said accessory receiving slot.

17. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein said second portion further comprises at least one locking hole in said locking portion, said at least one locking hole operable to engage with at least one locking hook of said first portion to position said device in a locked position.

18. (Currently amended) The device of claim 217, wherein said first portion comprises at least one flange pivotally coupled to said second portion, wherein an inner surface of said at least one flange is adapted to form at least a portion of said instrument receiving slot and an end of said at least one flange is adapted to form at least a portion of said accessory receiving slot.

19. (Original) The device of claim 18, wherein said second portion comprises at least one flange pivotally coupled to said first portion, wherein an inner surface of said at least one flange of said second portion cooperates with said inner surface of said at least one flange of said first portion to form at least a portion of said instrument receiving slot.

20. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein an end of said at least one flange of said second portion cooperates with said end of said at least one flange of said first portion to form at least a portion of said accessory receiving slot.

21. (Currently amended) A device for a medical instrument, comprising:

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a first portion; and
a second portion hingeably coupled with said first portion, said first and second portions
operable to cooperate with each other to form an instrument receiving slot for receiving at least a
portion of said medical instrument, said first and second portions further operable to cooperate
with each other to form an accessory receiving slot for receiving at least one accessory;

~~The device of claim 7,~~ wherein said at least one accessory comprises a disinfectant spray bottle.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) An instrument disinfecting system, comprising:
a medical instrument; and
an information tag connector removably coupled to said medical instrument, said
information tag connector adapted to removably couple with at least one accessory;

~~The system of claim 22,~~ wherein said at least one accessory comprises a disinfectant spray bottle, wherein said disinfectant spray bottle is removably coupled to said information tag connector.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein said information tag connector comprises an information tag portion for displaying at least one of a message and an identifier of a user of said medical instrument.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein said information tag portion and said at least one accessory are on opposite sides of said medical instrument.

27. (New) An integrated name tag and accessory holder for a medical instrument, the integrated name tag and accessory holder comprising:
a central connector adapted for connecting to an elongated portion of a medical instrument;

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an name tag attached to, and extending from, the central connector, the name tag have a first surface for receiving a printed message; and

an accessory holder attached to the connector on a side opposite of the name tag, the accessory holder and name tag thereby disposed on opposite sides of the central connector;

wherein the name tag is comprised of a first surface for displaying graphical elements and the accessory holder is comprised of an opening for receiving a portion of an accessory.

28. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 27, wherein the accessory holder is adapted for receiving a clip attached to an accessory.

29. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 28, wherein the accessory includes a disinfectant spray bottle.

30. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 27, wherein the connector is comprised of a hinged clamp.

31. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 27, wherein the name tag, accessory holder and connector are integrally formed of a single, molded element having a portion folded over onto itself to cooperate and form the opening and the connector.

32. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 31, wherein the single, molded element includes hooks for removably securing the folded-over portion to the single, molded element.

32. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 27, wherein the accessory is selected from the group consisting of a spray bottle, a calculator, a watch, a storage container, and a writing instrument.

33. (New) The integrated name tag and accessory holder of claim 27, wherein the name tag further includes a second surface opposite the first surface for receiving a printed message.